

As a medical student attending Wayne State University in Downtown Detroit, the current Pistol Free Zones affect me greatly. I spend almost every single day either in a classroom or a hospital - I'm unable to even bring my firearm with me to either location, let alone carry it once I arrive. I live Downtown and I walk both to class and to the hospital - oftentimes very late at night, and occasionally very early in the morning. Downtown Detroit is getting better every day, but I'm still not comfortable betting my life on a cell phone and a lengthy police response time. I need a firearm to give myself a fair chance - and that's why I have a CPL. But under the current law, I'm disarmed every day. Were I to be robbed or assaulted - something that's occurred within one block of my apartment twice within the last two months - I'd be at the mercy of my attacker. That's not a situation I'm comfortable with.

Prior to attending medical school, I worked at a firearms store and range that offered CPL classes. I support all the other provisions in this bill - they address major issues that I heard repeatedly from customers regarding their experience with the CPL application process. Furthermore, having personally trained several graduates of CPL-courses, I know that they would benefit from further training. Having undergone countless hours of advanced training myself, I can tell you that the benefit I've gained is, literally, priceless. I've acquired an instinctive understanding of how to manipulate my firearm in ways that will greatly improve my response to an attack.

The bottom line is that the provisions in this bill will protect the lives of Michigan's citizens. I support it both as a private citizen, a medical student, a future physician, and as a member of the National Board of Directors for Students for Concealed Carry.

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